

Iraqi, AF C-130 crew flies boy to receive heart surgery



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Brian Davidson

By Tech. Sgt. Melissa Phillips

407th Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

Although Baher, 8, looks like a happy, healthy boy on the outside, the joint Iraqi and U.S. Air Force C-130 aircrew, who gave him the ride of his life Aug. 22, knows he isn't healthy - at least for now.

Baher and his mother, Afaf, are headed to New Orleans, La., to repair a hole in his heart via a new program called Operation Mend a Heart.

"I was very happy to (be a part of the aircrew to) help him," said Iraqi Air Force Navigator Atiya, Squadron 23 (Transport), whose name is protected.

Navigator Atiya was one the C-130 crewmembers who flew Baher from Baghdad International Airport to Basra Air Station on the first leg of his journey.

He has reason to empathize.

"I have three boys myself," said Navigator Atiya, who held Baher on his lap to show him the airplane's control panel. "They're 11, 10 and 5."

From Basra, Humanitarian Operation

Center (Kuwait) Army Civil Affairs were waiting to whisk the family to Kuwait to pick up the proper visas and paperwork.

Later in the week, the mother and son are to board a plane headed for their ultimate destination - Tulane University and Hospital Clinic where Baher will receive surgery to correct a congenital heart defect.

The \$100,000 surgery, which is donated by TUHC, was facilitated through Operation Mend a Heart - a joint effort between TUHC, the U.S. military and Coalition forces.

More than 10 different U.S. and Coalition military and civilian agencies will have a hand in getting Baher to TUHC doctors to perform the life-saving surgery.

"Let's just say, it's a network of inspired people," said U.S. Army Lt. Col. Mark N. Matthews, Sr., 90th Regional Readiness Command, Camp Pike, Little Rock, Ark., who was in Southwest Asia in January 2005, where he helped facilitate intra-theater airlift and began dreaming of ways to help Iraqi children with heart problems.

Baher, 8, waits with his mom, Afaf, to take off in a C-130 Hercules from Squadron 23 (Transport) at Baghdad International Airport Monday. A joint Iraqi and Air Force (777th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron) aircrew piloted the plane to Basra Air Station where Army Civil Affairs drove the family across the border to Kuwait to obtain visas and clearances to fly to New Orleans. Baher is scheduled to receive heart surgery to repair a hole in his heart and is expected to return to Iraq in October.

Colonel Matthews knew about the Iraqi Air Force and heard they wanted to help. So even though he currently isn't in the Middle East, he helped smooth over the logistical bumps and get a hold of the right people to involve Squadron 23 Airmen.

Although the airlift portion of the trip that the Ali Base C-130 aircrew flew was short, it left a lasting impression.

"This was the first (Advisory Support Team) mission that flew humanitarian airlift for their country," said Maj. Bob May, Squadron 23 AST pilot instructor who is assigned to the 777th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron here.

"It was a great feeling being able to do this together with so many Iraqi crewmembers on board," he added.

Major May was the copilot and an Iraqi officer piloted the aircraft.

"I got to share some of my wife's homemade chocolate chip cookies with him," said Major May, who is deployed from Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark.

At the end of the trip, the U.S. crewmembers asked one of the Iraqis to translate their well-wishes to the mother and son.

"We asked the translator to tell them it was an honor for us to be able to help him," said Major May, whose son is Baher's age.

He also has two more reasons to sympathize with the concerned mother: his children, ages 6 and 3, who are anxiously



Out and about

Col. Michael J. Nowak, 407th Air Expeditionary Group commander, visits Team Ali.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Melissa Phillips

(Left to right) Tech. Sgt. Johnny Thomas, 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron Force Protection Airborne Surveillance System noncommissioned officer in charge, shows Col. Michael J. Nowak, 407th Air Expeditionary Group commander, how to reassemble a Desert Hawk model aircraft, prior to a reconnaissance mission here.

I recently had the pleasure of visiting the 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron Force Protection Airborne Surveillance System section. The two-man team pilot a lightweight styrofoam model aircraft called the Desert Hawk. The Desert Hawk is a valuable link in the force protection bubble surrounding this base. These guys have a cool job that at first glance might look like they get to play for a living. That is until you realize, while they're piloting the \$50,000 surveillance asset, the entire time they have the security and safety of more than 8,000 U.S. and coalition forces on their shoulders. With a range of about five miles, the FPASS operators fly the plane to maintain a birds-eye view over the area and to help to secure the defense around the perimeter. In this rotation (which for them is a six-month timeframe), FPASS operators have identified more than 20 suspicious vehicles and people trying to illegally gain access to the installation. They have even found a rocket launch-tube faced towards the base. When this happens, they immediately route the information to their superiors, who send out fire teams to apprehend potential adversaries. It takes a keen eye, a high level of mental discipline and attention to detail to scan for these types of threats day in and day out without giving in to complacency. The FPASS operators' efforts are an integral part of the continually-evolving defense puzzle here. Their mission - along with the many other dedicated security force members who convoy "outside the wire" and work more than 13-hour days in full battle rattle - allows base members to return home safely at the end of their deployment. To the 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron men and women affectionately nicknamed Desert Hunters, we salute you!



(Front to back) Sergeant Thomas releases the Desert Hawk to Colonel Nowak, who guides the bungee strap and ensures a perfect airframe launch.

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Photo by Master Sgt. Maurice Hessel

Senior Airman Israel Poire, 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, competes at Ali Idol Aug. 20. More photos on Page 12.

Surgery

U.S. and coalition forces help underprivileged children

Continued from Page 1

waiting for him to come home from his six-month deployment here.

"When Baher and his mother were driving away, they were all big smiles," said Major May. "It's good to know you're making an impact and doing something good for other people."

That same spirit of kindness is what moved Colonel Matthews, who started the seeds for the idea of the organization, while helping an Iraqi 5-year-old girl named Noor get airlift to Kuwait aboard a Japanese aircraft earlier this year.

The story reached wide acclaim and recognition through the recently-deceased reporter Peter Jennings.

"On a phone call home, I described how humbled I was to have been a part of helping Noor," Colonel Matthews said.

Later, his wife came up with the phrase "You must have a heart, to save a heart," and enlisted the help of others, to include her sister-in-law that works at TUHC.

The fever for the program snowballed until it involved a long list of supporters, to include U.S. Sen. Mary Landrieu.

"The people behind Operation Mend a Heart understand that one way we can support our troops is by supporting the people they are fighting for, the children of Iraq," said Senator Landrieu in a press release.

"Operation Mend a Heart will help provide the humanitarian medical assistance to the underprivileged children of Iraq who would otherwise not have access to the pediatric medical and surgical care they need," she said.

During the expected four-week recovery period after the surgery, an Iraqi professor at the TUHC will host the mother and son. They're expected to return to Iraq sometime in October.

For many of those involved, the intense logistical coordination required by U.S. and Coalition military personnel is indicative of a lesser-known role the military plays in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"Most Americans think of our military in combat roles," said Operation Mend a Heart program founder Karen Troyer-Caraway

and vice president of TUHC.

"Many Americans do not realize that our military mission also includes humanitarian assistance, rebuilding communities and investing in the future. Operation Mend a Heart is ordinary Americans helping the U.S. military accomplish their mission."

The mission is immense, and involves the lives of many caught in the struggle between the insurgency and the people of Iraq.

Sadly, Atiya says he knows of many children in Iraq in need of healthcare. In fact, his cousin's child is 11 and has leg and eye problems that prevent him from attending school.

"I want all babies to be healthy and happy, and I was very happy to be a part of helping another Iraqi get healthy," said Atiya. "I want to thank the American people for all the help they gave this child."

To find out how to help go to:

[http://tuhc.com/
custompage.asp?PageName=mendaheart](http://tuhc.com/custompage.asp?PageName=mendaheart).

Caffeine lovers rejoice

Agron Elezi, ES-KO employee, serves Senior Airman David Reim, 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron, an affogato, which is vanilla ice cream with espresso poured on top. The ES-KO coffee shop opened Wednesday. The cafe-type atmosphere sports several chairs and umbrellas, and even a foosball table for relaxing under the desert sun. They serve espresso, American coffee, cappuccino, tea (three flavors), ice cream (chocolate, vanilla and swirl), hot chocolate, muffins and various soft drinks. It's located down from the Bedrock shopette and next to the laundry facility, and is open seven days a week from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., and 4 p.m. and 10 p.m.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Melissa Phillips



OPSEC indicators come in all shapes – even a pizza box

By 2nd Lt. Richard Santisteban

407th Expeditionary Operations
Support Squadron

You've all heard about Operations Security, more commonly called OPSEC, and how it is a key component of antiterrorism and force protection. In fact, I'm sure that you've seen the posters, sat through many American Forces Network commercials on the subject, and "filled a square" by sitting through a mind-numbing briefing or two throughout your career.

I realize it's hard to make OPSEC an entertaining topic; however, it's one that might save your life or that of a coworker.

As most of us reach the downward slide of our tours here, good OPSEC practices are critical. It is human nature to drop your guard when the light at the end of the tunnel gets brighter; however, that light may be a train headed your way.

How many times have you forgotten to check your pockets before you turned in your clothes to the cleaners? Recently, recall rosters, credit card receipts and items with valuable information such as home addresses were seen in the lost and found box.

Now, I know you wouldn't just give out your credit card number to a stranger. Plus, you wouldn't just randomly tell people your social security number or your home phone number, would you?

We religiously protect this information and carefully consider each request for it, and whether the person asking has a legitimate need for it. Why? Mostly because it's common sense, and these people don't have a need to know this information.

If we give out data carelessly, someone with bad intentions could use it to throw a monkey-wrench into our lives. That's how identity theft starts. Bottom line is we

protect it because it is important to us.

So why don't we, as military members, practice OPSEC as religiously on the job?

For the most part, we tend to forget that even the smallest piece of information may be valuable to our adversaries.

There is a simple five-step process to remember when it comes to good OPSEC, and for that matter, protecting your personal information and security as well.

Step 1: Identify your critical information. Critical information is any information the bad guys need to prevent our success and that we must protect to ensure our success. Critical information includes items such as capabilities, intentions, times, places, locations, strengths, weakness, technology and tactics.

"If we give out data carelessly, someone with bad intentions could use it to throw a monkey-wrench into our lives. So why don't we, as military members, practice OPSEC as religiously on the job?"

By 2nd Lt. Richard Santisteban
407th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron

Step 2: Analyze your threats. There are two elements of a threat: intent to do harm and the capability to do harm. If there's a terrorist who wants to do you harm, but doesn't have the means to get to you, you don't have a threat. But if the bad guy has a friend with the means to reach you, now you have a threat.

Step 3: Analyze your vulnerabilities. Vulnerabilities are opportunities for adversaries to exploit your critical information, such as publishing sensitive information on public Web sites or talking about sensitive matters via cell phones or non-secure phone

lines. Often "indicators" can point to vulnerabilities. Did your shop suddenly put a fence around a location where there was no fence before? That can be an indicator that 'something is up' at that location and cause an adversary to take a closer look.

Step 4: Assess your risks. There are three elements to risk, which can be expressed as a mathematical equation: Threat x Vulnerability x Impact = Risk. Without any one of the three elements (threat, vulnerability or impact), you don't have risk.

Step 5: Apply appropriate countermeasures

Just like in poker, try not to "tip your hand" and give the bad guys a look at what we are doing. We try to make things appear normal; you know give the enemy the idea "nothing to see here - move along."

A famous example of "tipping out hand" was the spike in pizza orders to the Pentagon prior to the kick off of Desert Storm.

The spike in pizza deliveries was noticed by all the folks in the Washington, D.C. area, and it soon became obvious that something was going on at the Pentagon. To counteract the pizza trail, now there are more dining facilities in the Pentagon and the "pizza tip" can't be exploited.

In fact, during the spin up for Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, there wasn't any "pizza intelligence" available to the bad guys.

In the end, if you apply these steps, you can ensure that your unit's information is protected. Therefore, you and your comrades are protected.

You can also use these same steps to minimize the risks to your own personal information, and they're pretty good steps to follow if you want to throw a surprise party for someone – just remember to order the pizza from a trusted source.

Back issues of the Ali Times are available to 407th Air Expeditionary Group personnel on the shared drive at **S:\407 AEG\Public\PA\Ali Times Archive**



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Serving the base by communicating CC's policies



Courtesy photo

Tech. Sgt. Chris Dineen, 407th Air Expeditionary Group ground safety manager, normally carries a pen and paper to inspect the base's many workcenters for safety compliance. However, recently he donned safety equipment as a part of his uniform of the day to learn how to properly fill a liquid oxygen cart at the fuels section. Sergeant Dineen provides one part of a two-fold safety mission (which encompasses ground, flight and weapons safety): mishap prevention through safety promotion, inspection and advice to commanders, and mishap investigation to determine the cause and provide recommendations to prevent future occurrences. "If we don't maintain an aggressive safety program, the commander won't have the personnel to complete the mission," said Sergeant Dineen. "I give personnel the means to mitigate hazards. In the end, it's all about saving lives. I tell people my whole mission is to make sure I do my job to keep them alive so they can safely go home."

■ Story and photos by Tech. Sgt. Melissa Phillips ■ 2nd in 2-part series: *Group Uncovered* ■

Finance



Staff Sgt. Michael Washington, 407th Expeditionary Financial Management accounting liaison technician, verifies there is money to buy supplies on an AF Form 9 request.

Job description: We are responsible for customer service and budgetary functions to include AF Form 9s, Government Purchase Card approval, vendor payments, processing accrual vouchers and check cashing for all Airmen assigned here.

How does your job support the commander and impact the mission? We ensure all Airmen are compensated for this deployment by processing various combat entitlements, and liaison with the member's home station finance for pay problems.

What's the best part about your job? Getting to know our vendors on a first name basis; they're very friendly. Also, interacting with fellow finance troops throughout the Southwest Asia Area of Responsibility, which is necessary for our financial survival here.

In some shape or form, the nine 407th Air Expeditionary Group staff agencies impact or maintain oversight of the 1,100 Airmen dispersed throughout eight squadrons and five functional areas here.

"The group staff are my go-to people to ensure each squadron is following policy and knows the standard," said Col. Michael J. Nowak, 407th AEG commander.

"A prime example is the safety office. They look out for the overall safety of every member on this base," said Colonel Nowak. "Whether that is something as simple as making sure you wear your seatbelt or making sure individuals who work in confined spaces follow the proper procedures and don't asphyxiate themselves.

"As a commander, it's important that I have one program point of contact to make sure every squadron is complying with safety rules, so I can ensure every Airman goes home at the end of this deployment."

If an accident or mishap does occur, the command post is one of the first agencies notified.

"Not only do they keep me informed, but when I'm out running around helping to take care of problems, they take care of elevating the situation to higher headquarters. They act as a conduit to

See *Group Page 6*

Contracting



(Back to Front) Tech. Sgt. Michael Weaver, 407th Expeditionary Contracting Squadron contingency contracting officer, inspects the quality of service on the contracted laundry.

Job description? We procure essential supplies and contract services from everything to laundry services to new construction.

How does your job support the commander and impact the mission? We support the warfighter by procuring mission-essential items for every asset of the mission from command and control to force protection to quality of life.

What's the best part about your job? I like seeing my fellow warrior's smile after they receive a critical item they need to perform their job. It gives me a sense of pride to know that we have helped each unit on this base, to include our Army, Marine and Navy brethren to better equip themselves. I'm also really proud that I had a small, but important part, in helping during this significant time in Iraq's history.



Airman 1st Class Brian Flores, 407th Air Expeditionary Group command post controller, receives download and upload information from a C-130 aircrew member about the number of passengers and cargo on an ultrahigh frequency radio.

Group Continued from Page 5

keep everyone at group-level and at higher headquarters informed of the latest status.

The command post and safety are just two agencies responsible for compiling information about base activities so the commander can make informed decisions on trends affecting base personnel. The other agencies are the chapel and protocol (whose offices were both featured in the Aug. 12 Ali Times on Page 6), public affairs, force protection, personnel contingency operations (or more commonly known as PERSCO), contracting and finance.

"All these agencies work together to keep the base functioning," said Colonel Nowak.

"Without finance obligating the funds, contracting couldn't purchase any of the items each of the squadrons need to improve the base," he added.

Another staff agency that is continually assessing the base's needs is force protection. During this rotation, they pushed through a massive initiative to fortify major facilities like the Big Top and the fuels yard with concrete force protection barriers.

"Not only did they fix an identified write-up, they kept track of every step from procurement, delivery to installation.

"That's what my staff agencies do for me," said Colonel Nowak. "They tie together the loose ends that aren't identified as a job done by a specific unit. Then they find the right people to get each aspect taken care of until the project is complete.

"They are truly behind the scenes working to make this base a better place to be."



Tech. Sgt. Melissa Phillips, 407th AEG public affairs chief, coordinates an interview between AFP reporter Carlos Hamann and Maj. Gerald McCray, 777th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, to inform a worldwide audience about the Ali mission.

Command Post

Job description: We coordinate all command and control (C2) information about weapon systems, accidents and natural disasters. Relays critical information about all facets of the base mission to base agencies and the commander. Conduit between base personnel, commander and higher headquarters on all reportable situations, such as sabotage, deaths, etc.

How does your job support the commander and impact the mission? We are the commander's eyes and ears, and, we are the nerve center for the base.

What's the best part about your job? The best part of my job is learning new C2 procedures and job functions I don't normally use at my home station. I also like talking to all the different coalition aircrews on the radio.

(Right to left) Master Sgt. Charles E. Sears, 407th Air Expeditionary Group antiterrorism and force protection superintendent, helps install FP barriers at the fuels yard.



Force Protection

Job description: We ensure personnel are aware of the terrorism threat, reporting procedures and trained in risk mitigation.

How does your job support the commander and impact the mission? We analyze and track vulnerabilities to the installation and find ways to reduce or eliminate those risks to people.

What's the best part about your job? It feels good to drive around base and see the results of all our planning, coordination and hard work. I also like knowing the men and women here are better protected by barriers than when we arrived.

Public Affairs

Job description: I write and design the commander's information tool, the Ali Times. I also facilitate media coverage and provide trusted counsel to the commander on news impacting personnel.

How does your job support the commander and impact the mission? I relay the commander's priorities and key messages to base personnel on policies and procedures that affect their jobs and lives. I also have the privilege of writing articles on units that allow everyone to better understand how each squadron fits into the overall mission picture.

What's the best part about your job? Whenever I write about units, I get to try on a different job title for a day. One day I might learn how to turn a wrench and the next fly a plane. Plus, it's always exciting to get people publicity by publishing articles on the AF Web site.



Senior Airman Ken Masuda, 407th AEG personnel contingency operations technician, looks up information on a DD Form 245, Locator Card, in an Ali member's file. PERSCO maintains files on all personnel here.

Job description: We inprocess and outprocess all personnel assigned. Process casualty messages, emergency leave, reenlistments and promotions - essentially we are a mini military personnel flight.

How does your job support the commander and impact the mission? We provide a 100 percent personnel accountability and ensure the manning is in place to accomplish the mission.

What's the best part about your job? I work with a great PERSCO team, and I help ensure Ali personnel redeploy so they can return home safely to their family, friends and loved ones.

How do you define yourself?

What defines you? Everybody, at one point or another in their lifetime is faced with this question. Are you defined by your likes or dislikes, your personality and what you stand for? Could it be the uniform we wear day-in and day-out or the specialty badge proudly displayed on our uniform? Could it be your actions, or lack thereof, as the case may be?

We, as Airmen, are identified in two ways: by our uniform and by our specialty.

To the public, our uniform defines us as somebody who volunteered to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. It further defines us as caring people, someone who will be there to deliver much-needed aid to famine-stricken areas. We are a community that will bear arms and help those countries that are oppressed by dictatorships. You are a part of that here at Ali Base. Any time a situation arises, the public sees somebody in uniform on location rendering aid. It is our nature to help and assist wherever and whenever asked.

What makes up the person wearing that uniform?

Our specialty badge defines us even further within the military, whether you are a maintainer, security forces or a firefighter. Our career defines us more as to what we

do than who we are.

So, what defines you? Are you a leader or a follower?

No military organization can operate efficiently without completing the mission in a timely manner;

it doesn't matter if it's an on-time take off or something as simple as recognizing those who go above and beyond to support the mission. When leadership makes it a priority to meet a suspense, it ensures people are taken care of.

Clear, concise communication is another factor in accomplishing the overall mission. Vague direction, inconsistent views and a "yes" that should have been a "no" often lead to failed operations.

Specifics about what needs to be done provide the focus for task completion — do your subordinates know what is exactly expected of them?

How often do you sit down with them and go over their strengths and weaknesses or do you save it for their performance report?

Accountability is a big issue in today's Air Force; we see it everyday. If you say

"Society has a tendency to define us by our profession; all they see is what is on the outside. In reality, it is our beliefs that truly define us."



Story and quote by Maj. Daniel Lockert
777th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander

what you mean and mean what you say, it leaves little doubt as to what is expected and there is no room for misinterpretation.

Often, people are reluctant to express their true opinion on any given matter and would rather go along with the crowd and chime in with, "that's a great idea; let's do it," because they may feel insecure in their thoughts or actions. You should never go through life saying, "If only I had done x, y, z"

Be a leader, step out from behind the shadows and stand tall in what you believe.

Society has a tendency to define us by our profession; all they see is what is on the outside.

In reality, it is our beliefs that truly define us.

In order to answer the question, "What defines you," you must first look inside and find out what makes you tick.

An ORM tale: How will you dress for success?

Back in the days when sailing ships ruled the waves, a young crew prepared to set forth on a journey to the new world. There was only one problem; they had never made a voyage across the ocean before.

Fortunately, they had a highly-experienced captain who had made the voyage several times. The crew felt confident in their captain and his ability to lead them through the journey.

The ship was but one day out to sea when a call came down from the crow's nest.

"Captain, I see a pirate ship on the horizon with a boarding party!"

The crew cowered in fear for they had never faced an adversary such as this before. They turned toward their captain for guidance.

The captain stood strong, raised his fist and said, "Bring me my red shirt."

The crewmembers thought, "Red shirt?

We're about to die and he wants to look good? But hey, he's the captain."

The first mate went down to the captain's cabin and brought the red shirt up on deck.

The captain put on the shirt. They engaged the pirate ship and easily defeated the pirates with little loss to their own.

The crew was in awe! They rejoiced and thought to themselves, "This captain is truly amazing!"

Their elation was short-lived for the very next day a call came down from the crow's nest. "Captain, I see two pirate ships on the horizon both with boarding parties."

The crew again cowered in fear. Sure,

"Here's to hoping you know what your limits are and to keeping safety in mind always. May you often have the courage to wear the red shirt, but have the wisdom to avoid situations that require the brown pants."



Story and quote by Lt. Col. Eric Brenkert
407th Air Expeditionary Group Chief of Safety

they could defend themselves against one pirate ship. But two?

They knew they would surely perish and turned towards their captain for guidance.

The captain stood strong, raised his fist and said, "Bring me my red shirt!"

The crew thought, "The red shirt again? What's up with that? But hey, it worked once. Maybe it will work again."



ORM

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The first mate brought the captain his red shirt and they engaged both pirate ships simultaneously.

They lost a few more lives than before, but the crew was still victorious in battle. They said to each other, "This is without a doubt, the greatest and most courageous captain that ever lived!"

But the curiosity was too much for the first mate; he had to ask the question.

"Captain, the crew agrees that you are the greatest captain through the ages. But we must know: why do you always ask for your red shirt before you go into battle?"

"It's simple," the captain replied. "If, in the course of battle, I am struck by an enemy blade, the blood that I shed will not be seen by the rest of the crew. Then they will continue to fight valiantly without regard for their captain's safety."

That sealed it.

They thought this man was truly the greatest commander throughout eternity.

But again their elation was short-lived.

The very next day a call came down from the crow's nest. "Captain, I see four pirate ships on the horizon, all with boarding parties."

The crew knew what was about to hap-

pen, and they turned towards their captain to hear those famous words.

The captain stood strong, raised his fist and said, "Bring me my brown pants!"

Operational Risk Management is a wonderful resource. It reminds Airmen to assess risks everyday in the execution of their daily duties.

As we prepare to transition our jobs over to our replacements, it's natural to get excited and think about seeing family and friends. However, this change over is the most dangerous period in a rotation. We tend to count the days more than making the days count.

So remember safety hazards never take a break. They're always looming around the corner.

Those hazards can be something as simple as forgetting to buckle up, and then getting involved in a vehicle accident, which could possibly earn you a side trip to a hospital instead of going home to your loved ones.

Forgetting to take care of that one extra safety step doesn't pay off in the long run.

Here's to hoping you know what your limits are and to keeping safety in mind always.

As you go through life, may you have the courage to wear the red shirt and the wisdom to avoid situations that require the brown pants.

BRAC panel begins final deliberations

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The Base Realignment and Closure Commission generally supported the Defense Department's recommendations Aug. 24 as the panel began its final four days of deliberations.

The panel began voting on DOD's proposal to reshape the military infrastructure and eliminate excess by closing 33 major bases and realigning 29 others. Votes are not considered final until the commission finishes its deliberations Aug. 27.

After its final vote, the panel will send the report to President Bush by Sept. 8. If he concurs, he will send the final list to Congress, who can accept or reject it in its entirety, but not change it.

Today's session follows months of hearings around the country regarding DOD's plan that defense officials said will save about \$49 billion over the next 20 years.

Some BRAC commissioners have challenged the department's projected cost savings, as well as the military justification for

some recommendations. The panel voted July 19 to add several military installations to a list being considered for closure during hearings in Washington. DOD had recommended one of those bases, Naval Air Station Brunswick, Maine, for realignment, but not closure.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld defended DOD's BRAC recommendations during an Aug. 23 Pentagon news briefing.

"I feel that we made very solid recommendations," the secretary said. "I suspect the commission, when all is said and done, will endorse the overwhelming majority of these recommendations."

Secretary Rumsfeld called the plan an opportunity to "reset our force" to make it more efficient and cost-effective. The recommendations "didn't come out of mid-air," he said, but followed two-and-a-half years of study and review that were free of political motivations. "There wasn't an ounce of politics in any aspect of it," he said.

Upcoming changes of command

The 407th Expeditionary Communications Squadron change of command is scheduled for Thursday at 7:30 a.m. at the Bedrock flagpole.

The 407th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron change of command is scheduled for Sept. 3 at 8 a.m. at the aerial port cargo yard.

Shred personal info

Personnel are reminded to shred all personal information, to include envelopes with to and from addresses. In the past, this information has fallen into the enemy's hands and members have received threatening mail.

Squadron Feud

The First Four is hosting a Squadron Feud Thursday at 8 p.m. at the Big Top. The grand prize is \$150. There are five people to a team, and the event costs \$15 to enter. Contestants should contact Senior Airman Michael Garza, 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, at 445-2615 by Tuesday to enter. For more information or to enter, personnel can also call Senior Airman Jennifer Morales, 407th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron, at 445-2503; Airman 1st Class Sophia Ephraim, 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron, at 445-2306 or Airman 1st Class Connie Martinez, 407th ESVS, at 445-2609.

Gospel music explosion

There is a Gospel Music Explosion scheduled for Sept. 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the Army chapel. The Gospel Service Choir, and praise teams from both the Traditional and Contemporary service will be featured. For more information, contact the Oasis of Peace Chapel at 445-2006.

Uniform reminder

Personnel are reminded that the official Air Force physical training uniform is the only authorized uniform, other than the desert camouflage or flight suit, Sept. 1. For more information, contact your unit first sergeant.

Location of base photos

Photos taken by the 407th Expeditionary Communication Squadron Visual Information photographers can be accessed at [V:\Shared\Photographs](#).

Terrorist attack survivor returns to Mideast

By Capt. David W. Small

U.S. Central Command Air Forces Forward
Public Affairs

Exactly one year to the day he left Saudi Arabia from a deployment, on which he was shot five times in a vicious terrorist attack, Lt. Col. Ed O'Neal is back in theater.

Colonel O'Neal, the new U.S. Central Command Air Forces forward director of manpower and personnel, acknowledges a single training course he took twelve years ago as the reason he is alive; and his devotion to duty as the reason he's deployed again, despite some apprehensions.

May 29, 2004, Colonel O'Neal was sipping coffee in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, preparing for meetings as part of a two-day temporary duty in his job as director of training for the U.S. Military Training Mission in Riyadh.

A shop attendant calmly walked into the restaurant, telling another the compound was under attack. He and his partner, Lt. Col. James Broome, overheard the conversation and ran to the nearest security post to assess the situation.

Getting to higher ground

There, the two Colonels decided to get to higher ground. They ran up to the third floor in one of two towers in the compound, grabbed some third-country nationals on the way, and barricaded themselves on the roof. Sixty-two seconds after deciding to move, the terrorists had arrived at their location.

They were on the roof for more than twelve hours in the beating sun while a battle between the terrorist attackers and Saudi security forces raged below.

As the Saudi security forces swept the compound and extracted people trapped in the battle, O'Neal and Broome were both wounded. Ricocheting gunfire hit O'Neal in five places and Broome was shot in the upper arm. None of their injuries were life threatening, but twenty-two people were killed in the attack.

Combat Rescue officers evacuated the two to Germany, where Colonel O'Neal healed with his wife at his side and made the decision to go back to Saudi Arabia to complete his rotation.

Quitting is not an option

"If you fall off your horse, you can't just quit. I needed to go back, otherwise I'd never be able to do my job overseas," he

told his supportive wife.

What happened during this brutal attack though is in the past and is another story. What he wants to convey to Airmen today is that he was able to take the appropriate actions during the attack because he paid attention to instructors during military training courses.

Learning awareness skills

In preparation for a deployment as a captain to Africa as a U.N. observer in 1992, Colonel O'Neal went to the International Terrorism Awareness Course at the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center, Fort Bragg, N.C.

There, he learned to be familiar with his surroundings, practice good security, make himself a hard target, and maintain vigilance among other details.

His instructors planted fake car bombs on students' rental cars and sent anonymous letters and packages to their hotels to train them in situational awareness.

This class, which the Joint Special Operations University at Hurlburt Field hosts the Air Force's shorter version called Dynamics of International Terrorism, helped the Colonel through his ordeal.

"I'm here today because of what I learned in that course," he said. "You'll use whatever you learn – you just don't know when you'll use it. You've got to be prepared. When the time comes, you can't say you need a re-do on the class."

He also drew on knowledge from his prior-service Army training.

"During the attack, I harkened back to stuff I learned as an E-1," he said. "In class, I don't sleep, I pay attention. Not every training has an application the second you walk outside."

The ultimate weapon system

In short order, he had to approach the attack with no weapon, not even his uniform blouse on.

"Your brain is the ultimate weapons system," he said. "Physical fitness and training determines your ability as a professional Airman."

Training builds confidence, he said.

"You'll be amazed at how you'll react when the time comes and you need to react in the right way," he said. "Nothing you learn is wasted."

Before he was repatriated in Germany, one of the medics there asked the imposing



Photo by Capt. David W. Small

Taking lessons learned from his actions during a vicious terrorist attack May 29, 2004 in Saudi Arabia, Lt. Col. Ed O'Neal, U.S. CENTAF director of manpower and personnel, briefs a group of operators in the Combined Air Operations Center on tactics and techniques for survival Aug. 22.

6-foot-3-inch Colonel incredulously, "We don't see many senior officers wounded, what's your job?"

He replied with a snicker, "I'm a personnel officer." When the medic asked what he was doing to get shot, "My job," he replied.

"They didn't ask me what was my (Air Force Specialty Code) when they opened fire," he said. "Special operators are not the only Air Force combatants in this ubiquitous battlefield."

Returning to the battlefield

His decision to return to Saudi Arabia and complete the remaining 50 days of that deployment was not easy. He said it was painful to go back, but he was glad to have faced his fears.

"I knew I would stay in the Air Force and needed to complete that mission so I could continue to do my job with confidence," he said.

He went back, finishing his tour there July 21, 2004.

July 21, 2005, Colonel O'Neal stepped



AFPC notifies Airmen of criminal activity

The Air Force is notifying more than 33,000 Airmen that a security breach has occurred in the online Assignment Management System. The notification comes after Air Force Personnel Center officials here alerted Air Force and federal investigators to unusually high activity on a single user's AMS account in June. AMS, an online program used for assignment preferences and career management, contains career information on officers and enlisted Airmen, as well as some personal information such as birth dates and Social Security numbers, said Col. Lee Hall, director of assignments at AFPC. It does not contain personal addresses, phone numbers or specific information about family members. A malicious user accessed about half of the officer force's individual information, while only a handful of noncommissioned officers were affected, said Lt. Col. John Clarke, AFPC's deputy director of personnel data systems.

The individual used a legitimate user's login information to access and/or download Airmen's personal information. "We notified Airmen as quickly as we could while still following criminal investigation procedures with the (Office of Special Investigations)," said Maj. Gen. Anthony F. Przybyslawski, AFPC commander. "Protecting Airmen's personal information is something we take very seriously, and we are doing everything we can to catch and prosecute those responsible under the law. We notified the individuals involved, outlining what happened and how they can best insulate themselves from this potential risk," the general said. "We've taken steps to increase our system security. We're working with all Air Force agencies to identify vulnerabilities. We must keep our data protected. "In the meantime, AFPC officials said officers may login to the virtual military personnel flight at

www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/vs/ to see if their information was viewed. If it was, they will receive a pop-up banner after login which will provide additional information. The small number of enlisted Airmen who have had their information viewed will be contacted directly. Airmen may also go online to www.afpc.randolph.af.mil and click on "AMS Information" to determine if their personal information was viewed. Officials also said Airmen may decide to follow Federal Trade Commission guidelines for dealing with identity theft at www.consumer.gov/idtheft/index.html. Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act, beginning Sept. 1, everyone is entitled to one free credit check annually. To request this free report, visit www.annualcreditreport.com/. Any Airman who believes he or she has become a victim of identity theft should contact the local base OSI and legal office. (Courtesy of Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs)

Attack Officer credits Air Force training as reason why he survived terrorist shooting

Continued from Page 9

off another rotator into muggy desert air on a runway near the Arabian Gulf for a one-year tour here.

"There's going to be others like me who are going to have to come back here," he said. "Each person has to come to terms with what's happened to them."

He modestly puts his experience in perspective with an Army specialist he met at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center.

While the specialist's partner held an insurgent detainee nearby, the Soldier peered into a hole in the ground looking for a weapons cache. The hole had black powder around it and the detainee was smoking a cigarette. When he flicked the cigarette to the ground, the gunpowder ignited. Being an African-American, the burn left an indelible scar — a bright pink circle covering the Soldier's face. That was his second purple heart in 14 months and he told Colonel O'Neal he wanted to go back to Iraq and do his job.

"When you see young men like him committed to the mission, whatever I felt from my attack can't be that bad," he said.

His job today is to support all personnel for contingency operations (PERSCO) teams up-range, handle organizational issues for units in theater and provide personnel and manpower support to the Combined Forces Air Component Commander.

Air Force seeks stories from '9/11 Generation'

SAN ANTONIO — The face of the world changed when terrorists intentionally crashed commercial aircraft into the Twin Towers in New York and into the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001. A global audience watched the attacks live on television, and the repeated images haunted many for weeks, months or even years. These attacks inspired different reactions. Some feared living in major cities, others became avid news junkies, and many chose to join the fight for freedom. Since Sept. 11, 2001, more than 135,000 have joined the Air Force. Air Force officials want to share their stories. In an effort launched Aug. 17, Airmen who are part of this "9/11 Generation" can tell their stories through Air Force Link, the Air Force's official Web site. "Before 9/11, many Airmen never really thought that they might go to war," said Col. Janice Gunnoe, Air Force News Agency commander. "Since the attacks, our new Airmen understand that their country is at war, and they chose to join the fight anyway. "This is a drastic change in their motives, and these letters are a way for them to tell their stories," she said. Airmen can submit stories to www.af.mil/letters/index.asp?type=4. To record an audio story, call (877) 237-2346 toll free, DSN 945-5918 or commercial (210) 925-5918 and select Option 2.

To read a full account of the terrorist attack, visit the web at: http://www.edwards.af.mil/archive/2004/2004-archive-col_oneal.html.



Force shaping Phase II evolves for officers in fiscal 2006

By Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force's officer corps is overmanned by about 4,000 Airmen. In fiscal 2005, the Air Force's voluntary force shaping initiatives successfully reduced the size of the active duty population to its congressionally authorized level of 359,000.

However, the fiscal 2006 budget trims the Air Force down to 357,400 Airmen. The new population target shows the Air Force will have an overage of officers.

"The Air Force is still experiencing a surplus in officers, particularly in the junior grades," said Brig. Gen. Glenn F. Spears, Air Force director of force management policy. "We will continue our force shaping efforts until the proper balance and skill mixture is achieved."

The general said that if the situation were left unresolved, these additional officers would constrain the service's readiness and operational effectiveness. Air Force officials recently announced the next force shaping Phase II evolution to address the officer surplus, waiving recoupment of unearned portions of some bonuses and education costs.

"Some of the Air Force programs where recoupment is not pursued include transfers to the Guard or Reserve via Palace Chase, Limited Active Duty Service Commitment waivers, ROTC cadet disenrollment and interservice transfers to the Army via Blue-to-Green," the General said.

Eligibility criteria differs among the programs and interested officers are encouraged to consult information presented at the Air Force Personnel Center Force Shaping Web site at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/retsep/shape2.htm or their local military personnel flight.

"By further expanding the voluntary force shaping opportunities, the Air Force will continue to shape the force for future operational challenges," General Spears said. "These recoupment-related initiatives offer additional means for those officers who were considering leaving active duty, but did not want to owe the government."

407th AEG Warrior of the Week Senior Master Sgt. James J. Baarda



Unit: 777th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron

Duty title: Advisory Support Team loadmaster instructor

Home station: Yokota Air Base, Japan

Why other warriors say he's a warrior: His work ethic and warrior spirit is unmatched, and he is a stellar example to everyone around him, both U.S. and Iraqi. He is always trying to improve and maximize the training opportunities for his Iraqi Air Force students by developing and implementing new ideas into the AST program.

What is your most memorable Air Force experience: Flying over the South China Sea in a HC-130 and helping to rescue 20 stranded merchant Marines.

Hobbies: Surf fishing and being on the beach.

Family: I am married to Ratana, and I have two lovely daughters, Desiree, who just started her second year of college, and Michel, who is in her last year of high school.

Touch a life today



Donate supplies or volunteer to help Operation Reach Out, an Ali Base program designed to help local people in need.

Operation Reach Out is seeking school supplies to donate to local children. They also always need clothes for all ages and sizes, shoes (all sizes), soccer balls and footballs, yo-yos, toys (nothing religious), frisbees, food (no pork products), hygiene items and infant items.

For more information or to volunteer your time, contact Senior Airmen Kelly Vanamburg and Justin Kitts, 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, at 445-2232.

Identify This



KNOW WHAT THIS IS? If you can identify the object, e-mail us at Ali.Times@tlab.centaf.af.mil with "Identify This" in the subject block by 3 p.m. the following Friday. All correct entries will be placed in a box and **three winners** will be **randomly selected** at the following week's **Combat Bingo** at 7:30 p.m. at the Hot Spot. Participants do not have to attend bingo to win. The three winners will **win a complimentary t-shirt or coin** from the 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron. The Aug. 12 *ID This* winners, who correctly identified the rebar on a barrier, are Tech. Sgt. Luis Sanchez, 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron; Capt. Stephen Esposito, 407th Air Expeditionary Group and Staff Sgt. Eric Laffin, 407th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron.



Team Ali rocks out to triple-threat at Ali Idol



Photos by Master Sgt. Maurice Hessel

(Above) Airman 1st Class Juliet Saunders, 407th Expeditionary Communications Squadron, received thunderous applause Aug. 20, after she worked up the nerve to take her musical talents out of the smoke pit (where she is often seen playing guitar) and straight into the fire at the Ali Idol talent contest. Singing two of her own creations, New Life and an untitled piece, Airman Saunders won over the judges, who took their job seriously and spiced up the event with one liners like "That would be great if it were just you in the shower" and "I don't know what to say except you're a great electrician." The triple-threat entertainer writes her own music, sings and plays guitar. She beat out 14 performers to sweep up the \$200 first-place prize. **(Below/right)** Ali Idol judges *(from left to right)* Master Sgt. Donald Bowles, 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron; Capt. Teresa Rose, 407th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron; and Lt. Col. David A. Rearick, 407th Air Expeditionary Group deputy commander, battle it out to compete for the position of the barbed-tongued critic made infamous by Simon Cowell, American Idol celebrity.

(Right) Ali Idol contestant Senior Airman Wayne H. Faunteroy, 407th ECES, belts out a tune and entertains the crowd. The second place winner was Staff Sgt. Stephen Wright, 407th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron, who won a \$100 prize, and the third place was U.S. Army 2nd Lt. Scott Nelles, 3/112th Armor Battalion, 56th Brigade Combat Team, who won \$50.





Just for Fun

Presented by the 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron

Today

5:30 a.m., Step Class at Muscle Beach
4:30 p.m., Slim in 6, resist-a-band, at House of Pain, Army fitness center
5 p.m., Spin at Muscle Beach
7 p.m., Halo-2 and 9-Ball at Army Rec Center
7:30 p.m., Bingo followed by a movie at Hot Spot
8 p.m., Step aerobics at House of Pain
8:30 p.m., Absolute Abs at Muscle Beach

Saturday

5:30 a.m., Pilates at House of Pain
2:30 p.m., Pilates at Muscle Beach
4:30 p.m., Slim in 6, resist-a-band, at House of Pain
7 p.m., Dominoes and darts TNY at Army Rec center
8 p.m., Country night at Big Top
8 p.m., Salsa lessons at House of Pain

Sunday

3 p.m., Spin at House of Pain
4 p.m., Shito-Ryu at House of Pain
7 p.m., Spades at Army Rec Center
8 p.m., 9-ball at Hot Spot

Monday

4:30 p.m., Slim in 6, resist-a-band, at House of Pain
7 p.m., Board game night at Army Rec Center
7:30 p.m., Jujitsu, at Muscle Beach
8 p.m., Step aerobics at House of Pain
8 p.m., Air hockey at Hot Spot
8:30 p.m., Absolute Abs at Muscle Beach

Tuesday

5:30 a.m., Pilates at House of Pain
5:30 a.m., Yoga at Muscle Beach
2:30 p.m., Yoga at Muscle Beach
4:30 p.m., Slim in 6, resist-a-band, at House of Pain
6:30 p.m., Shito-Ryu at House

of Pain
7 p.m., Ping Pong TNY at Army Rec Center
8 p.m., Spin at House of Pain

Wednesday

2:30 p.m., Pilates at Muscle Beach
4:30 p.m., Slim in 6, resist-a-band, at House of Pain
5 p.m., Spin at Muscle Beach
7 p.m., Casino night at Hot Spot
8 p.m., Step aerobics at House of Pain
8:30 p.m., Absolute Abs at Muscle Beach

Thursday

5:30 a.m., Tai Chi (taped) at Muscle Beach
5:30 a.m., Pilates at House of Pain
2:30 p.m., Tai Chi (taped) at Muscle Beach
4:30 p.m., Slim in 6, resist-a-band, at House of Pain
5 p.m., Spin at Muscle Beach
6:30 p.m., Shito-Ryu at House of Pain
7 p.m., Scrabble TNY at Army Rec Center
8 p.m., Spin at House of Pain
8 p.m., Music night in the Courtyard at Adder Commons
10:30 p.m., Tai Chi (taped) at Muscle Beach

Sept. 2

5:30 a.m., Step class at Muscle Beach
4:30 p.m., Slim in 6, resist-a-band, at House of Pain
5 p.m., Spin at Muscle Beach
7 p.m., 8-ball tournament at Army Rec Center
7 p.m., Halo-2 at Army Rec Center
7:30 p.m., Gospel Music Explosion at Army chapel (features Gospel Service choir and Contemporary and Traditional Service praise teams)
7:30 p.m., Bingo followed by a movie at Hot Spot
8 p.m., Step aerobics at House of Pain
8 p.m., Hand-to-hand at House of Pain
8:30 p.m., Absolute Abs at Muscle Beach

For more information or to share suggestions, about 407th Services Squadron events, call 445-2696.

For more information about the House of Pain, Army fitness center, call 833-1709. For more information about Army morale, welfare and recreation activities, call 833-1745.

Cricket Movie Theater

HOT SPOT

Today



Mr. and Mrs. Smith, 1 a.m. and 1 p.m., A action-packed thrill ride about a bored married couple who discover that they both are hiding a secret - they're secret agents. When the truth is out, they end up in each other's cross-hairs. Starring Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie.



Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, 3 a.m. and 3 p.m., Arthur Dent is having a bad day. His house is about to be bulldozed, he discovers that his friend is an alien and to top things off, Planet Earth is about to be demolished. Starring Jennifer Lopez and Jane Fonda.



The Interpreter, 5 a.m. and 5 p.m., A U.N. interpreter inadvertently overhears a death threat against an African head of state scheduled to address the United Nation's General Assembly. As she tries to thwart the plot, she realizes she's become a target herself. Starring Nicole Kidman and Sean Penn.



Monster-In-Law, 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., The story of a young woman who must reconsider her engagement when confronted with her nightmarish future mother-in-law. Starring Billy Bailey, Anna Chancellor and John Malkovich.



Mindhunters, 9 a.m. and 9 p.m., An FBI-training program for psychological profiling used to track down serial killers spawns the next serial killer. The group has to look inwards to find out who it is. Starring LL Cool J and Eion Bailey.



War of the Worlds, 11 a.m. and 11 p.m., Martians land near London, conquering and ruining the metropolis; the fate of civilization and even of the human race remains in doubt until the very last moment. Starring Tom Cruise and Tim Robbins.

Saturday

Mind Hunters, 1 a.m., 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.
 Mr. and Mrs. Smith, 3 a.m. and 3 p.m.
 Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, 5 a.m. and 11 p.m.
 The Interpreter, 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.
 War of the Worlds, 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.

Sunday

Mr. and Mrs. Smith, 1 a.m. and 1 p.m.
 Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, 3 a.m. and 3 p.m.
 The Interpreter, 5 a.m. and 5 p.m.
 War of the Worlds, 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.
 Monster-in-law, 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.
 Mind Hunters, 11 a.m. and 11 p.m.

Monday

Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, 1 a.m. and 1 p.m.
 The Interpreter and 3 p.m.
 War of the Worlds, 5 a.m. and 5 p.m.
 Monster-in-law, 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.
 Mind Hunters, 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.
 Mr. and Mrs. Smith, 11 a.m. and 11 p.m.
 Mind Hunters, 9 p.m.

Tuesday

The Interpreter, 1 a.m. and 1 p.m.
 War of the Worlds, 3 a.m. and 3 p.m.
 Monster-in-law, 5 a.m. and 5 p.m.
 Mind Hunters, 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.
 Mr. and Mrs. Smith, 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.
 Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, 11 a.m. and 11 p.m.

Wednesday

War of the Worlds, 1 a.m. and 1 p.m.
 Monster-in-law, 3 a.m. and 3 p.m.
 Mind Hunters, 5 a.m. and 5 p.m.
 Mr. and Mrs. Smith, 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.
 Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.
 The Interpreter, 11 a.m. and 11 p.m.
 Mind Hunters, 5 p.m.

Thursday

Monster-in-law, 1 a.m. and 1 p.m.
 Mind Hunters, 3 a.m. and 3 p.m.
 Mr. and Mrs. Smith, 5 a.m. and 5 p.m.
 Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.
 The Interpreter, 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.
 War of the Worlds, 11 a.m. and 11 p.m.
 Mind Hunters, 3 p.m.

Movie times are subject to change.





Spiritual Survival Gear

Today

1 p.m., Muslim prayer/service at mosque (behind DFAC)
1 p.m., Muslim prayer/service also at AF chapel
6 p.m., Weekday Mass at AF chapel
6:30 p.m., Jewish Service at Army religious activity center
7:30 p.m., Bible study at RAC
8 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous at RAC annex

Saturday

5:30 p.m., Catholic Confession at AF chapel/chaplain's Office
6 p.m., Catholic Vigil Mass at AF chapel

Sunday

7:30 a.m., Catholic Confession at AF chapel/chaplain's Office
7:30 a.m., Traditional Protestant Service at post chapel
8 a.m., Roman Catholic Mass at AF chapel
8 a.m., Church of Christ Service at RAC
9:30 a.m., Traditional Protestant service at AF chapel
10 a.m., Contemporary Protestant Service at Army Post chapel
10 a.m., Latter Day Saints service at RAC
10:30 a.m., Roman Catholic Mass at Camp Cedar
1 p.m., Gospel Service at Army chapel
7 p.m., Contemporary Worship service at AF chapel

Monday

6 p.m., Weekday Mass at AF chapel
7:30 p.m., "God's Design for your Dream Marriage" at chapel annex
7:30 p.m., Discipleship Bible study/fellowship at AF chapel

Tuesday

7 a.m., Weekday Mass at AF chapel
Noon, AA at RAC annex
7 p.m., Right of Christian Initiation of Adults at AF chaplain's office
7:30 p.m., Alpha course for military at AF chapel annex
7:30 p.m., Combat Bible study at RAC

Wednesday

7:30 a.m., Alpha course for military at AF chapel annex
6 p.m., Weekday Mass at AF chapel
7 p.m., Spanish Bible study at RAC
7 p.m., Midweek service discussion at new Army chapel
7:30 p.m., Men's Bible study at RAC

Thursday

7 a.m., Weekday Mass at AF chapel
6:30 p.m., Ladies' Bible study at RAC
7 p.m., LDS study at RAC
7:30 p.m., Workman's Fellowship at RAC
7:30 p.m., A Man & His World Bible study at AF chapel

Worship is at the 407th Air Expeditionary Group Oasis of Peace Chapel, unless otherwise noted. The chapel is open 24 hours a day for prayer and reflection. For details on worship opportunities, call 445-2006.

Inspirational moments... The Carpenter's House

An elderly carpenter was ready to retire. He told his employer, who was also his contractor, of his plans to leave the house-building business and live a more leisurely life with his wife enjoying his extended family.

He would miss the paycheck, but he needed to retire. The carpenter decided they could get by.

The contractor was sorry to see his good worker go and asked if he could build just one more house as a personal favor.

Considering the source, the carpenter said yes, but it was easy to see that his heart was not in his work.

He resorted to shoddy workmanship and used inferior materials.

It was an unfortunate way to end his career.

When the carpenter finished his work and the builder came to inspect the house, the contractor handed the front-door key to the carpenter.

"This is your house," he said, "It's my gift to you." What a shock! What a shame!

If he had only known he was building his own house, he would have done it all so differently. Now, he had to live in the home he had built.

So it is with all of us. If we build our lives in a distracted way, reacting rather than acting and willing to put up less than the best, then with a shock we look at the situation we have created and find that we are now living in the house we have built.

If we had realized that from the beginning, we would have probably done it differently.

So think of yourself as the carpenter. Think about your house. Each day you hammer a nail, place a board, or erect a wall. Build wisely.

Today and everyday, remember you only have one life that you will ever build. Even if you live in that house for only one day more, that day deserves to be lived graciously and with dignity.

So remember your life tomorrow will be the result of your attitude and the choices you make today.

What do you want your internal house to look like today and for eternity?

Article courtesy of the Oasis of Peace Chapel